

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-17, 19-21, 24-28, 30-43, 45-56, 58, 59, 62-66, 68, 71-75 and 77-85 are pending. Claims 1, 7, 24, 31 and 59 are amended. Claims 23, 29 and 86 are canceled.

The indication of allowable subject matter in the Office Action is gratefully acknowledged. In view of the indication of allowable subject matter, it is believed that all claims are now in condition for allowance. In particular, as discussed below the claims are amended so that all claims are allowable as acknowledged in the Office Action.

Claim 1 is amended to include the features set forth in claim 23, and therefore, claim 1 is allowable as acknowledged in the Office Action.

Claim 7 is rewritten in independent form, and therefore, is also allowable as acknowledged in the Office Action.

Claim 24 is amended to include the features of claim 29, and therefore, is allowable as acknowledged in the Office Action.

Claims 31 and 59 are also rewritten in independent form, and therefore, are allowable as acknowledged in the Office Action.

Applicant also notes that claim 56 was not addressed in the Office Action. However, since claim 56 was previously allowed, it is believed that the Office Action simply inadvertently omitted the reference to claim 56. Because claim 56 was previously acknowledged as allowable, it is submitted that claim 56 continues to be allowable. However, if a rejection of claim 56 was intended, the most recent Office Action could not have been made final.


Finally, the claims withdrawn as directed to non-elected species are also allowable, as they depend from an allowed generic claim.

As discussed above, in view of the indication of allowable subject matter, a Notice of Allowance for claims 1-17, 19-21, 24-28, 30-43, 45-56, 58, 59, 62-66, 68, 71-75, and 77-85 is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, he is encouraged to contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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